

## Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 042898

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. GUATEMALA--EARTHQUAKES CAUSE IMPOTENCE

FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA STRESSED IN A FEBRUARY 20 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR MELOY THAT AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE GUATEMALA IS NO THREAT TO BELIZE OR THE UK. MOLINA IS CONCERNED THAT THE DISASTER WILL HARDEN BELIZE'S POSITION AND MAY CAUSE THE UK TO GRANT INDEPENDENCE UNILATERALLY. THIS, HE ADDED, WOULD LEAD TO THE OVERTHROW OF THE GOG BECAUSE THE ARMY WOULD NEVER ACCEPT SUCH A NATIONAL HUMILIATION. (CONFIDENTIAL) GUATEMALA 1484, 2/22.)

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### 2. UAE: POLITICAL INTEGRATION STALLS WHILE ECONOMY BOOMS

EMBASSY ABU DHABI REPORTS THAT SHAIKH ZAYED'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE FURTHER INTEGRATION AMONG THE UAE'S SEVEN SHAIKHDOMS HAVE ENDED LARGELY IN FAILURE, WITH RIVAL SHAIKHS SUR-RENDERING THEIR PREROGATIVES TO FEDERAL AUTHORITY AS SLOWLY AS POSSIBLE. WHILE THIS ARRANGEMENT IS ADMINISTRATIVELY INEFFICIENT, IT APPEARS TO BE POLITICALLY VIABLE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT:

--THE UAE CONTINUES TO STEER A CAREFUL MIDDLE COURSE BETWEEN PAN-ARAB INVOLVEMENT AND PAROCHIAL INTERESTS WHILE ENJOYING GENERALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN.

--ABU DHABI'S OIL REVENUE IS EXPECTED TO RISE ABOUT ONE BILLION DOLLARS IN 1976, ENOUGH TO FUEL THE UAE'S RAPID DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

EMBASSY COMMENT: WITH A COMFORTABLE INCOME ASSURED AT PRESENT PRICES, THE UAE IS NOT LIKELY TO BE AMONG THE OPEC MEMBERS WHO PRESS FOR HIGHER PRICES AT THE MAY MEETING. RATHER, IT WILL PROBABLY TRY TO FIND A COMPROMISE TO SATISFY THE VARIOUS FACTIONS WITHIN OPEC. (SECRET) ABU DHABI 441, 2/22.)

### 3. THE LOCKHEED CASE: INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE

THE ITALIAN AND SPANISH GOVERNMENTS ARE THE LATEST TO SET UP SPECIAL COMMISSIONS TO INVESTIGATE THE LOCKHEED CASE. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY ROME, PRIME MINISTER MORO ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS:

--APPOINTED A THREE-MEMBER PANEL TO INVESTIGATE THE PURCHASE OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT; AND

--REQUESTED THAT THE US PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CASE AND "CLEAR THE INNOCENT."

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A SPANISH MFA OFFICIAL, EXPLAINING SIMILAR STEPS TAKEN BY HIS GOVERNMENT, TOLD EMBASSY MADRID THAT THE GOS WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY RUMORS OF LOCKHEED PAY-OFFS, ALTHOUGH IT PRESENTLY HAD NO SUBSTANTIAL INFORMATION.

EMBASSY MADRID COMMENT: THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT, LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, HAS BEEN THE OBJECT OF SHARP ATTACKS FOR ALLEGED INACTION ON CORRUPTION. THE REQUEST FOR INFORMA-

TION FROM US AND APPOINTMENT OF AN INQUIRY COMMISSION ARE APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO GIVE THE GOVERNMENT A CHANCE TO BE THE FIRST TO REVEAL ANY IRREGULARITIES, THEREBY DEMONSTRATING ITS DETERMINATION TO REPRESS CORRUPTION. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) ROME 2756, 2/20 AND MADRID 1341, 2/21.)

4. THE EC AND SPAIN

EC VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES GAVE AMBASSADOR HINTON THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS FEBRUARY 17:

--AREILZA INFORMED THE COMMISSION THAT SPAIN NO LONGER WISHED TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS (BROKEN OFF LAST FALL) FOR A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.

--FOR THE MOMENT, SPAIN WANTS TO REOPEN DISCUSSIONS ON "REGULARIZING" THE 1970 AGREEMENT, SO THAT IT LEGALLY COVERS RELATIONS WITH THE NINE UNDER THE SAME ARRANGEMENTS NEGOTIATED WITH THE SIX.

--AFTER DOMESTIC POLITICAL REFORMS HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED, SPAIN WILL APPLY FOR NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO FULL MEMBERSHIP.

SOAMES ADVISED AREILZA THAT BEFORE APPLYING SPAIN SHOULD WAIT UNTIL IT WAS SURE EUROPE WAS READY TO ACCEPT SPANISH MEMBERSHIP, NOTING THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR EUROPE TO ADJUST TO A NEW SPAIN. SOAMES SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY AREILZA'S OPTIMISM THAT THE NEEDED REFORMS COULD BE BROUGHT ABOUT AND WONDERED IF HE WAS NOT OVERLY CONFIDENT. (CONFIDENTIAL) EC BRUSSELS 1658, 2/19.) INGERSOLL

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